

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, January 19, 2011, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Chip Flowers, Jr., State Treasurer
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Mark Davis, representing Ed Kee Secretary of Agriculture
William "Chip" Narvel, Jr., Secretary	Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara Secretary of DNREC
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	Mike Valenti representing Steven Ditmer

Absent: L. Allen Messick, Jr., and Robert L. Emerson.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: Ms. Sarah Timmons and Mr. David Wolfenden representing Wheeler, Wolfenden, Dwares.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. with prayer.

I. Current Situation Report:

Robin West informed the Board that we have a total of 1,065 farms in preservation districts totaling 154,465 acres, with a total of 630 farms under agricultural easements totaling 99,144 acres at a cost of \$174,526,344. For PDR 16, there are a total of 42 farms, comprising 3,871 acres, with a value of \$40,155,000. For PDR 17, there are a total of 13 farms, comprising 963 acres, with a value of \$9,796,000. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 40 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,878 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804.

II. State Audit Presentation: Wheeler-Wolfenden-Dwares

Chairman Garey asked that we receive the audit presentation now, from the representatives of Wheeler-Wolfenden-Dwares, Ms. Timmons and Mr. Wolfenden. Mr. Wolfenden presented the audit and stated that there were no adverse findings. Both Mr. Wolfenden and Ms. Timmons congratulated the Foundation staff on the cooperation they received.

III. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that 660 properties were visited in 2009, and 568 properties were visited in 2010. Currently there are no properties being visited as of this date and 14 properties are to be visited in 2011.

IV. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Hrupsa-Stewart Expansion of the Welch-Schrieber District, ID#K-10-11-196B. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Hrupsa-Stewart Expansion of the Welch-Schrieber District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Robert Whaley Farm Expansion of the Chipman Farms District, ID#S-10-11-080K. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Robert Whaley Farm Expansion of the Chipman Farms District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Wheatley Farms 2010 #1 Expansion of the Parker Branch District, ID#S-10-09-224E. After discussion, **Chip Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Wheatley Farms 2010 #1 Expansion of the Parker Branch District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

4. Wheatley Farms 2010 #2 Expansion of the Wheatley Farms, Inc. District, ID#S-10-09-036B. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Wheatley Farms 2010 #2 Expansion of the Wheatley Farms, Inc. District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Welfley #2 Expansion of the W. F. Hanson District, ID#K-10-12-165D. After discussion, **Chip Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility the Welfley #2 Expansion of the W. F. Hanson District contingent upon sale of the property, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

It was noted that the District Agreement for this property would be contingent on the sale of the property.

2. Little Creek 100 #2 Expansion of the O'Neal Preservation District, ID#K-10-12-165D. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility the Little Creek 100 #2 Expansion of the O'Neal Preservation District contingent upon sale of the property, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

It was noted that the District Agreement for this property would be contingent on the sale of the property.

VI. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary Ed Kee waived the right of veto for the above Expansions in his e-mail dated January 18, 2011 (attached.)

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the December 15, 2010, minutes. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **William Vanderwende moved to approve the December minutes, seconded by Chip Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

IX. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick then presented the Financial Statement for the month of December 2010, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of December 31, 2010, \$284,336.42 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$74.69 from rollback taxes, and \$518.46 interest income. Expenditures for the month of December totaled \$46,112.45. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to approve the December 2010 financial statement as presented, seconded by Chip Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Executive Session – There was no need for an executive session.

XI. Other Business:

Michael McGrath informed the Board that we have three areas that are problems with our Federal audit:

1. More State money was placed into the Federal match than what we showed in the reimbursement forms for Federal reimbursement.

2. We sent some documents for the Federal audit from our attorney's office. All documents were to be attached together when the auditors got here.

3. The audit showed that some of the properties were monitored nine to fourteen days after the twelve month deadline.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on February 16, 2011 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Garey
Chairman